

To the residents of Seneca County:

I'm writing to share with you my deep concern, which I've expressed to our Councilmen, over the Seneca Falls Town Board's decision to engage in talks with Seneca Meadows to negotiate a new host agreement with an extended term.

I was born and grew up in Seneca Falls, raised my daughters here, and they are now raising their families here. It was with a sense of love and responsibility to my community that 20 years ago I relocated BonaDent's headquarters to Seneca Falls from Auburn. Since moving, we've added over 120 jobs, relocated several families to our community, and now employ nearly 200 people in a once-abandoned Wal-Mart. We invested more than \$3 million dollars into revitalizing downtown and the canal corridor. My family and I are responsible for properties with a total tax assessment of approximately \$9 million dollars.

We believe in reinvesting in our community.

When I made the decision to relocate to Seneca Falls in 1999, I did so with the desire for our business to be part of the long-term vision for Seneca Falls and Seneca County that the leaders at that time presented. It was a clear vision that built upon the *wine industry, our rich history of women's rights*, and, of course, *tourism*.

This is not the community we signed up to live or do business in.

When BonaDent moved here, the landfill was 1/5th the size that it is today. I've regretfully stood idle while our leaders allowed Seneca Meadows to prey on Seneca Falls as if it were downtrodden and desperate.

We are not downtrodden and desperate.

Seneca Meadows is an organization that methodically utilizes public relations tactics calculated to make tax payers believe that we cannot exist without landfill money. **We can!** Both Supervisor Lazzaro and Councilman Ferrara personally committed to meet with me to discuss what a town budget might look like without the landfill. Neither has fulfilled that commitment. I once again invite our board members to share ideas with a successful business team that understands multi-million dollar budgets.

Decisions made regarding the longevity of the landfill will directly impact the economic growth of Seneca Falls and Seneca County for decades to come.

The economic state of this community influences BonaDent and many businesses like ours. A key factor in any business's growth is attracting and retaining skilled professionals. For tourism, it's attracting visitors. But it's becoming increasingly more difficult to do so. As guests come off the Thruway, they're greeted by an enormous landfill, filthy tractor trailers, noise, and noxious odors. I assure you, allowing Seneca Meadows to operate beyond 2025 will make it even more difficult to attract residents, businesses, and visitors. The landfill detracts from a sustainable long-term vision and damages the *true resources of our community - our waterways, lakes, rich history, wine trails, and tourism*.

Seneca Falls Town Board

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Call or email the members of the Seneca Falls Town Board and demand that they uphold Local Law 3 and discontinue talks of a new host agreement.

Request that they instead develop a realistic budget that ensures a trash-free, positive future for Seneca Falls and Seneca County. The people of Seneca Falls *overwhelmingly voted in support of Local Law 3 and a definitive closure date to Seneca Meadows in last year's elections*. Our elected officials must *listen to their constituents* and address the issues at hand to ensure that Seneca Falls gets on a path towards long-term financial sustainability.

Warm Regards,
Bruce H. Bonafiglia
President, *BonaDent Dental Laboratories*

